

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
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LR 45

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, Senator Wickersham and his staff were looking at what language could be put together to accomplish what we've discussed, and because we're amending the constitution, we all want to be very careful about what it is that we offer as an amendment to the body. So I'm not going to try to get this amendment adopted at this time. We need the opportunity to work this language over. And since there seems to be a general acceptance of the concept, I'm not worried about not getting it adopted at General File. So what I'm going to do, Mr. Speaker, I'm going to withdraw that amendment and have it refiled as a Select File amendment. So may I do that in that manner, withdraw it and authorize the Clerk to file it as a Select File amendment, refile it?

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Any objection? So ordered.

CLERK: I have nothing further pending to the resolution at this time, Mr. President.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: We are now back debating the resolution, LR 45CA. Senator Chambers.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker, I just hope we don't run out of time before we have a chance to discuss various aspects of this. So I want to let Senator Wickersham know that, if I file a motion of some kind, it will be, Senator Wickersham, for the purpose of having the opportunity to further discuss some of these points. We're now at the stage where we can look at what will be accomplished by this resolution, if it is placed on the ballot and adopted by the voters. I want to repeat, however this resolution is amended, I hope we do not put it on the ballot. If it winds up on the ballot, I hope that the voters do not accept it. But because it is a proposal to amend the constitution, I and others have worked hard on this to be sure that it at least says what we intend for it to say. And for my part I wanted to do as little damage as possible, to leave as little room for mischief as possible. Constitutions should contain language which is general, but that is not the same as ambiguous and unclear. We should create a framework within which the Legislature is free to fill in the spaces as necessary to carry out the purposes of that constitutional amendment.